

## 2023 Themes & Overview

Teaching is most impactful when it is integrated within meaningful, mindful and responsive classwork.

Where possible, the themes and topics of DEIJ should be integrated within regular classroom practices and teaching. Therefore, they are grouped together with possible activities and resources available by grade level. All teachers should review the themes and seek to integrate them within their regular learning. In particular, LS homeroom teachers and MS advisers should expect to cover the main themes over the course of a year. Our youngest friends (Y5 - 2nd grade) will focus mostly on the themes of "I am Me".

| Theme/Standard                                                                                                                          | Enduring Understandings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Essential Questions                                                                                                                           |
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| I am Me <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- My identity and individuality</li> <li>- My culture</li> <li>- My society</li> </ul>   | Learning about self, identity and individuality are essential parts of social-emotional development. Learning to cherish personal identities builds self confidence and develops empathy and understanding of others.<br>Learning about our families, our school friends and our social groups supports understanding and empathy.<br>Understanding society, its structures and expectations is part of understanding self worth. | Who am I?<br>Who are my friends and family?<br>How do I value myself and others?<br>How do others value me?<br>Where do I belong & feel safe? |
| The Bigger World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Truthful histories</li> <li>- Respectful curiosity about the world</li> </ul> | Learning about the world beyond our personal experience develops empathy and understanding of others.<br>Learning about the world beyond our personal experience develops respectful curiosity about other cultures and other people and overcomes simple stereotypes.<br>Learning different perspectives in the world develops analytical thinking and decision making.                                                          | What can I learn?<br>How do other people think and feel about this?<br>Whose truth am I learning?                                             |
| Justice and Responsibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bias, power and</li> </ul>                                          | Developing empathy and a sense of justice can make us grow as individuals, strengthen our relationships, and improve our analytical thinking and decision making.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Is this just?<br>How can I improve equity in this situation?                                                                                  |

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| <p>responsibility<br/>- Social justice<br/>and activism</p> | <p>Learning about bias, including our own, develops our ability to recognise and understand other perspectives.<br/>A more just and equitable society benefits everyone within it.</p> |  |
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